

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 17 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

CLAIM OBJECTION

Claim 17 stands objected to because the limitation “the first edge” does not have a sufficient antecedent basis. Claim 17 has been amended to call for the first input terminals to extend in a direction from the first edge of the second substrate. The first edge of the second substrate is sufficiently supported in claim 1, from which claim 17 depends. As such, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement which Applicants regard as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner alleges that claims 1 and 4 fail to comply with the written description requirement because the limitation “a boundary between the first linear portion and the oblique portion, the boundary being at a position that overlaps with the seal member as viewed in plan” is not supported by the specification as filed. To overcome this rejection, claims 1 and 4 have been amended to delete this subject

matter. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3, and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 56-20927 (JP'927) in view of Burrell et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,680,192) and Hayakawa et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,172,732 B1). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to call for a liquid crystal that fills the liquid crystal sealing area. In contrast, JP '927 is directed to an electric discharge type display that is filled with neon. Please see page 4, lines 8-9 of the English translation of JP '927, attached hereto. The technical principles, voltage requirements, and the like are totally different for an electric discharge type display in comparison to a liquid crystal.

Since JP '927 is directed to an electric discharge type display, Applicants respectfully assert that there is no suggestion or motivation to combine the teachings of JP '927 with the teachings of Burrell and Hayakawa. That is, one skilled in the art of liquid crystal devices would not be motivated to look to the teachings of an electric discharge device when designing a device that utilizes a liquid crystal. Since there is no suggestion or motivation to combine the teachings of JP '927 with the teachings of Burrell and Hayakawa, Applicants respectfully assert that the claimed invention would not have been obvious.

Claims 4 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 56-20927 (JP' 927) in view of Burrell et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,680,192) and

Hayakawa et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,172,732 B1) as applied to claims 1 and 3 above and further in view of Kobayashi (U.S. Pat. No. 5,959,713) and JP 06-075240 A (JP'240).

Claim 4 has also been amended to call for a liquid crystal that fills the liquid crystal sealing area. As stated above, JP '927 is directed to an electric discharge display that utilizes completely different technical principles. Since JP '927 is directed to an electric discharge display, one skilled in the art would not be motivated to combine the teachings of JP '927 with the teachings of Burrell, Hayakawa, and Kobayashi to arrive at the claimed invention. As there is no suggestion or motivation to combine the teachings of JP '927 with the teachings of Burrell, Hayakawa, and Kobayashi, the claimed invention would not have been obvious.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

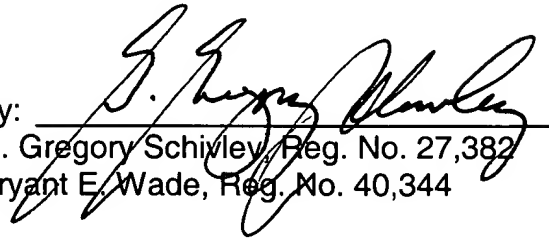
CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this

application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 
G. Gregory Schivley, Reg. No. 27,382
Bryant E. Wade, Reg. No. 40,344

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

GGs/BEW/JAH